United Nations A/71/353

General Assembly

Distr.: General
23 August 2016

Original: English

Seventy-first session
Item 70 (a) of the provisional agenda*
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Outcome of the World Humanitarian Summit

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report has been prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 70/106, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report on the outcome of the World Humanitarian Summit as soon as possible after its convocation in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016. The report provides an analysis of the priority themes that emerged from the Summit and concludes with recommendations for advancing the initiatives launched and commitments made at the Summit and, more broadly, in the Agenda for Humanity.

* A/71/150.

16-12603 (E) 210916

Please recycle

I. Introduction

1. On 23 and 24 May 2016, I convened the first World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul, Turkey: the first time in the history of the United Nations that representatives of Member States, non-governmental organizations, civil society, populations affected by crises, the private sector and international organizations came together on such a significant scale, with so many stakeholders, to commit to collectively and individually reduce the unprecedented level of humanitarian need and suffering in the world today.

2. I want to express my gratitude to the Government and people of Turkey for hosting the World Summit and for their substantive contribution to making it a success, as well as to the 9,000 people who participated, including the 180 Member States, two-thirds of which were represented at ministerial-level or above, including 55 Heads of State and Government, and the 23,000 people who engaged in the three-year consultation process leading to the convening of the Summit.

3. The extensive consultation process, the multi-stakeholder nature of the World Summit and the scale of participation made it unique in both substance and format. Among the different voices and perspectives present at the Summit, I witnessed Government representatives sitting together with members of resilient communities; multilateral development banks coming together to increase investment in fragile situations; and the private sector developing strategic partnerships with international organizations. The Summit reflected the potential behind the Charter of the United Nations, "We the peoples", channelling the humanitarian spirit towards collective solutions to shared responsibilities.

4. As elaborated in my report for the World Summit, "One humanity: shared responsibility",[1] it came at a time of skyrocketing humanitarian needs alongside a historic shortfall in the funding required to meet them. Armed conflicts and other violent situations, disasters caused by natural hazards and the impacts of climate change, health threats, soaring inequality and increased fragility marked by extreme poverty and weak institutions are among the factors contributing to the unprecedented spike in humanitarian needs.

5. The Agenda for Humanity and the five core responsibilities[2] presented in my report sought to demonstrate that addressing people's humanitarian needs requires more than increasing levels of assistance. It necessitates a far more decisive and deliberate effort to reduce needs, anchored in political will and leadership to prevent and end conflict, as well as a determined effort across humanitarian, development, human rights and peace and security to save lives, meet humanitarian needs and reduce risk and vulnerability.

6. The World Summit was successful in confirming the urgency and scale of the task ahead of us and in affirming that a new and coherent approach for reducing needs was required. I thank the participants, including the many Heads of State and Government, who welcomed the Agenda for Humanity and its five core

[1] A/70/709.

[2] Ibid., annex: core responsibility one: political leadership to prevent and end conflicts; core responsibility two: uphold the norms that safeguard humanity; core responsibility three: leave no one behind; core responsibility four: change people's lives: from delivering aid to ending need; and core responsibility five: invest in humanity.

responsibilities, and who recognized that it provides a critical framework that should be taken forward as a contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and our collective pledge to leave no one behind.

7. The World Summit has set in motion a multi-year agenda for change and transformation. Through the core commitments that many participants have aligned with, the initiatives launched and the thousands of individual commitments made, there was a groundswell of support for major changes in approach that will have a lasting impact. Stakeholders must remain active champions of the commitments they have made.

8. Local actors now expect greater recognition for their leading role in crisis prevention, preparedness and response, and to be consulted, supported and funded accordingly. People displaced within and across borders and others affected by crises should benefit from a concerted effort by the international community, not only to meet their humanitarian needs, but also to systematically reduce those needs and to increase their protection and resilience. Women and women's groups expect to be more empowered and better resourced in order to participate and lead in building community resilience, humanitarian response and peacebuilding, and to have their specific needs and rights met in crises. As a result, children, young people, persons with disabilities, older people and other groups that are uniquely vulnerable in crises will be included to a greater degree in decision-making and will benefit from more targeted financing.[3]

9. The World Summit has also reaffirmed the value of convening a diversity of stakeholders to develop solutions to shared problems. Only by harnessing the skills and ideas of a diverse range of stakeholders will we be able to respond to the magnitude of the challenges and implement changes on the scale required. Participants in the Summit recognized the leading role of civil society, and embraced it, along with the private sector, as genuine strategic partners, rather than simply as stakeholders to be consulted or as providers of resources. The United Nations is an organization of 193 Member States, but it must also be the forum where different voices, ideas and ambitions come together.

10. The World Summit also highlighted the struggle to secure meaningful commitment to change in the areas that would have the most impact on saving lives, ending people's suffering and safeguarding their dignity. Despite the many affirmations of support for preventing and ending conflict and respecting international law, the few new and concrete commitments that would lead to change on the ground reveal the complexity of the task and the political environment we face today. Without decisive political leadership from Member States and global leaders to connect words to action, people affected by crises will continue to suffer and will be deprived of life-saving assistance. This remains the international community's greatest task and challenge.

11. The purpose of the present report is to highlight some of the priority areas that emerged from the World Summit and to identify means of advancing the Agenda for

[3] The report is complemented by the "Commitments to Action" document (see www.worldhumanitariansummit.org), which provides analysis of the types of commitments made in support of the Agenda for Humanity and the number and examples of initiatives launched. The document will also be made available to the public on the online Platform for Action, Commitments and Transformation, discussed in paras. 58 and 59 below, in the coming months.

Humanity over the coming years. The report will provide a sense of direction, but will not include details on the specific mechanisms or processes for individual initiatives to be implemented.

12. The United Nations is uniquely positioned to facilitate and steer this process, but it will take political will, a steadfast commitment to change and a diversity of actors working in collaboration if we are to succeed. The ultimate success of the World Summit, whether it improves the lives of those in Aleppo in the Syrian Arab Republic or in Bangui in the Central African Republic, the islands of the Pacific and Indian Oceans, communities crippled by El Niño and the drought in the Horn of Africa and Southern Africa or the displaced in camps in the Sudan or the Middle East, lies with Governments, communities affected by crises, civil society, international and regional organizations and the United Nations.

II. World Humanitarian Summit: a point of departure

13. Over two days in Istanbul, participants at the World Summit gathered to express their commitment to take responsibility for placing people at the centre of decision-making and action. World leaders came together in the leaders segment to reaffirm that our common problems need common solutions and greater international cooperation, underscoring their responsibility to: reduce and end conflicts through prevention and political solutions; provide greater investment in peaceful and inclusive societies; uphold and champion international humanitarian and human rights law; reach those who are furthest behind, including by reducing displacement and empowering and protecting women and girls; undertake a new way of working that not only meets people's needs but reduces their risks and vulnerability; and acknowledge the need for sustained political and financial resources.

14. At a series of seven high-level round tables, senior Government representatives and representatives of civil society and the private sector aligned themselves with 32 core commitments[4] prepared in advance of the World Summit and in support of the Agenda for Humanity, and made concrete policy, legal and operational commitments to advance them. At 15 special sessions, new initiatives and alliances were launched; at 132 side events, representatives of Member States, international, national and regional organizations, affected populations, non-governmental organizations, diaspora communities, faith-based organizations, the private sector, academia and others discussed current and emerging challenges, shared good practices and formed new partnerships; and the world's best technological partners and innovators participated in an innovation fair on cutting-edge solutions. Multiple special events, from musical performances to photographic displays and films, showcased stories of people's resilience, humanity and dignity.

[4] Participants at the World Humanitarian Summit were invited to express their alignment with the 32 core commitments developed in support of the seven high-level round tables. The report reflects those alignments registered through the World Summit online commitments platform or by e-mail up until 4 June 2016.

Priority trends emerging from the World Summit

A. Protecting civilians and minimizing human suffering

(Advancing core responsibilities one and two)

Conflict prevention and investment in fragile situations

15. The World Summit confirmed that preventing and ending conflict, including through addressing root causes, is the most important and effective way to substantially reduce risk, vulnerability and humanitarian needs for protection and assistance.

16. To demonstrate necessary political leadership, some Member States committed themselves to increase investment in early warning analysis, including of human rights violations, and to defuse risks before they deteriorate. Others committed to use membership in the Security Council to advocate for greater focus and briefings on emerging conflict risks or to establish a contact group at the onset of a crisis. A number of Member States committed to share good practices on conflict prevention, to increase staffing and to provide other forms of support for conflict mediation, prevention and resolution.

17. Over 85 entities, including 40 Member States, aligned with one or more of the core commitments on political leadership to prevent and end conflict, with the highest number on addressing the root causes of conflict and reducing fragility by investing in inclusive, peaceful societies. Commitments were made to ensure that women can meaningfully engage and hold leadership positions in mediation and conflict prevention efforts. Commitments were also made to increase the role of youth in conflict prevention and peacebuilding, including through national dialogues and sharing good practice. In a peace promise, 30 United Nations entities and civil society organizations also committed to address the drivers of conflicts and vulnerability in order to reduce subsequent humanitarian needs.

I would like to express my appreciation to those Heads of State and Government who showed personal leadership in this area at the World Summit. I urge Member States and other stakeholders to redouble efforts to address root causes and encourage those who made commitments and affirmations in this area to now translate their support into specific, time-bound commitments and to periodically assess progress.

Despite the recognition at the World Summit of the importance of greater attention to conflict prevention and resolution, the relatively low number of individual commitments to this core responsibility demonstrates that prevention and conflict resolution remain a laudable ambition rather than a concrete and operational activity that is adequately equipped, financed and championed. This must change. Without much greater political leadership from Member States to prevent and resolve conflicts and to increase stability, we will not be able to substantially reduce the scale of humanitarian needs or the unprecedented movement of people within and across borders.

International humanitarian law, human rights and refugee law

18. The World Summit affirmed that compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law is critical to saving lives, reducing suffering and safeguarding human dignity during and after conflict and in other situations of violence. The Summit recognized that far more has to be done to end and prevent violations, including through improved compliance and greater accountability for violations.

19. Almost 110 entities, including 41 Member States, aligned with one or more of the core commitments on upholding the norms that safeguard humanity, with the highest number on promoting and enhancing respect for international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law. The importance of adhering to international humanitarian law was also echoed at the World Summit, including in a joint statement endorsed by 49 Member States. A joint commitment was also made by a group of Member States to minimize the impact on civilians of explosive weapons in populated areas. Some Member States and other stakeholders committed to strengthen humanitarian mine action and to promote ratification of and accession to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention.

20. Commitments were made to continue to monitor, investigate, analyse and report on international human rights and international humanitarian law violations and abuses. Specific commitments were made to disseminate, offer training and promote compliance with these bodies of law. Other commitments focused on improving the protection of humanitarian and health-care workers, health-care facilities, schools and other civilian infrastructure. Faith-based organizations committed to use their networks to raise awareness for compliance with international humanitarian law and humanitarian principles. A wide range of stakeholders committed themselves to put humanitarian principles at the centre of their work and underlined the importance of the principles as part of their commitments to advance the core responsibilities.

21. Measures to track, collect data and report on violations of international humanitarian law were also announced. A number of Member States made commitments to support and promote cooperation with the International Criminal Court. Nearly 20 per cent of the individual commitments related to this core responsibility were focused on the prevention of gender-based violence.

The strong support of Member States for promoting and enhancing respect for international humanitarian, human rights, refugee law and humanitarian principles is timely and important. However, concerted effort is required at national, regional and global levels to ensure that civilians are in fact receiving assistance and being protected in and after conflicts such as those being witnessed at the present time. I call on all parties to armed conflict to allow and facilitate rapid and unimpeded humanitarian access. I further call on Member States, non-State armed groups and humanitarian organizations to ensure full respect for humanitarian principles.

Political and economic leverage should be exercised and legal mechanisms utilized to ensure that parties to armed conflict comply with their obligations under international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law and that accountability is ensured for violations. I also reiterate my call for a vigorous global campaign to mobilize States, civil society and

global leaders to enhance respect for international humanitarian and human rights law.

B. Leave no one behind

(Advancing core responsibility three)

22. From the statements made by leaders to the concrete commitments made, the World Summit was unequivocal in confirming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The pledge to leave no one behind demands that greater political, financial and operational investments be made to ensure that immediate humanitarian needs are met, but also that humanitarian needs, risk and vulnerability are reduced over time.

Reducing forced displacement

23. The World Summit affirmed that forced displacement is not only a humanitarian challenge, but also a political, development and human rights one. The Summit proved instrumental to building consensus for a new comprehensive approach to addressing forced displacement based on meeting the immediate humanitarian needs of refugees and internally displaced persons, protecting their rights and providing greater support for sustained livelihoods and for strengthening the capacities and resilience of the displaced and host communities. Such an approach must go hand-in-hand with political action and legal frameworks to address the root causes of forced displacement and efforts to find longer-term durable solutions.

24. One hundred entities, including 38 Member States, aligned themselves with one or more of the core commitments on addressing forced displacement. The highest numbers of alignments were in support of the new approach, followed by the commitment to promote safe and durable solutions and to take the necessary steps to work towards a target of a 50 per cent reduction in the number of those internally displaced by 2030. Specific commitments were made by some Member States to integrate refugees and internally displaced persons into national and local development plans, including access to education, livelihoods, social protection and social services. The United Nations, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector made commitments to support national efforts to strengthen legal and policy frameworks to protect internally displaced persons and uphold their rights and to meet the short- and long-term needs of refugees, internally displaced persons and host communities.

25. In recognition of the need to address large movements of refugees in a more comprehensive manner, a number of Member States reaffirmed their commitment to continue hosting refugees, in line with their international obligations. Several Member States announced their intention to resettle more refugees in 2016. Numerous financial commitments were made by multilateral development banks, including the World Bank, bilateral donors and other financial partners to provide predictable financing and strengthen the capacities of host communities, in recognition of the public good they provide as well as the financial implications of that obligation. In addition, seven multilateral development banks agreed to collaborate in response to the refugee and migrant crisis.

26. Widespread recognition of the growing number of people displaced by disasters and climate change also led to the launch of a Platform on Disaster Displacement by a group of Member States. The Platform is intended to prevent and prepare for displacement due to natural disasters and the adverse impacts of climate change.

27. In recognition of the increase in mixed flows of refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants, a number of commitments were also made at the World Summit to address the particular vulnerabilities migrants can face. Some Member States made the commitment to increase access for migrants to labour markets and social services, strengthening coping capacity and self-reliance. Others committed to improve protection through birth registration of children of migrants or by strengthening legal or policy frameworks.

I call on Member States, United Nations agencies and other stakeholders to collectively increase protection and assistance to internally displaced persons and to support effective policies and frameworks that reduce new and protracted situations of internal displacement in a safe and dignified manner, with the aim of reducing the number of people who are internally displaced by at least 50 per cent globally by 2030. I further encourage collaborative approaches between humanitarian and development actors that transition displaced persons from dependency on aid towards increased resilience and self-reliance.

I encourage Member States and humanitarian and development organizations to continue to ensure that the particular vulnerabilities of migrants in countries of origin, transit and destination are addressed, including through protection and assistance, and by enabling migrants to become contributing members of society in countries of arrival.

The next critical milestone related to refugees, migrants and host communities will be the 19 September 2016 high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, at which Heads of States and Government will agree on commitments that will significantly improve the lives of refugees and migrants.

Women and girls as agents of change

28. The World Summit confirmed that gender equality, fulfilment of women's and girls' human rights and their empowerment in political, humanitarian and development spheres is a universal responsibility. The skills and experience of women of all ages and their role as leaders and agents of change are pivotal to sustaining conflict prevention and resolution, to peacebuilding and to building resilient communities.

29. Governments, regional organizations and aid organizations committed themselves to gender equality and to support for women's leadership in decision-making. Nearly 100 entities, including 41 Member States, aligned with the core commitment to ensure that humanitarian programming is gender-responsive. Of the 32 core commitments, the commitment to women and girls received the highest number of alignments to a core commitment by Member States.

30. A number of Member States and other stakeholders put targets in place to increase resources for women's organizations, including those representing women with disabilities, to ensure women's participation and leadership roles in humanitarian response and peacebuilding and to align funding with principles of gender equality. New financing and programmes were pledged for women's and girls' education, training, livelihood support and access to quality, comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care. Governments committed themselves to undertake legislative reforms to ensure greater protection for women of all ages and girls from all forms of gender-based violence, no matter the setting.

I urge all stakeholders, in the implementation of their commitments, to ensure that they promote gender equality and uphold women's and girls' rights and that they develop and make publically available specific plans and concrete and time-bound targets to implement them. I call on all Member States to meet their obligation to protect and fulfil the human rights of women of all ages and call on all stakeholders to ensure that these rights are promoted at all times in the implementation of their commitments in all aspects of the Agenda for Humanity.

Inclusion

31. The World Summit affirmed that our responsibility to restore humanity and uphold the humanitarian principle of impartiality cannot be fulfilled unless the humanitarian needs and human rights of marginalized people and those at the greatest risk are at the forefront of our efforts to meet needs, uphold norms and reduce vulnerability.

32. Specific initiatives, funds and coalitions were launched to ensure that the needs of persons with disabilities, children and youth, migrants, older persons and other marginalized people will be fully taken into account in preparedness and response. The Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action will strengthen an inclusive approach to design, implementation, monitoring and funding of assistance. Through the Charter on Inclusion, more than 70 stakeholders made the commitment to implement measures to ensure that persons with disabilities have the right to full participation in and access to relief, protection and recovery programmes. A compact for young people in humanitarian action will help to ensure the needs of young people affected by crises are addressed and that they are meaningfully engaged in crisis prevention and response activities.

As with the other initiatives, I recommend that workplans and concrete benchmarks be put in place in support of inclusion-related commitments, and that regular reviews and evaluations take place to assess whether they are addressing the specific protection and assistance needs of marginalized groups, reducing their humanitarian needs and ensuring that their leadership and participation is actively supported and promoted. I propose that similar reviews and evaluations should take place on how youth are being meaningfully engaged in humanitarian action.

C. A new way of working

(Advancing core responsibilities three, four and five)

33. The consultations leading to the World Summit called for a new way of working that not only meets people's needs in a principled manner, but also reduces those needs by reducing people's risks and vulnerabilities.

34. Almost 120 entities, including 34 Member States and almost 60 non-governmental organizations, aligned themselves with the commitment to a "new way of working" that meets people's immediate humanitarian needs while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability over multiple years through the achievement of collective outcomes. More stakeholders aligned themselves with this core commitment than with any other core commitment. In addition, the shifts called for in core responsibility four of the Agenda for Humanity generated the highest number of individual commitments from all stakeholders.

35. The World Summit demonstrated strong momentum towards the new way of working, embodied by commitments to: reinforce local leadership and ownership; transcend the humanitarian-development divide while ensuring full respect for humanitarian principles; increase preparedness and risk-driven planning and programming; create diverse partnerships and alliances to tackle specific challenges; and provide coherent and aligned financing to enable these shifts.

National and local leadership and ownership

36. The World Summit marked a turning point in how national and local actors, including women and women's groups, should be engaged, capacitated and funded. The Summit also affirmed that people affected by crises or living in situations of risk are rights-holders who must be put at the centre of decision-making processes.

37. Widespread commitments were made from donors, international non-governmental organizations and United Nations agencies to devolve leadership and decision-making to levels at closest proximity to crises. Targets were set to increase the amount of funding channelled to national and local responders and to strengthen local capacities. This included a commitment under the "grand bargain" initiative to channel 25 per cent of financing to national and local responders, as directly as possible, by 2020. Networks and alliances were also formed, such as the Charter4Change and the Network for Empowered Aid Response to support and ensure genuine local leadership and community engagement.

38. Numerous commitments were pledged to scale up cash-based programming and risk-informed social protection. Commitments were also made to put people at the centre of design, implementation and decision-making, such as the adoption of the Core Humanitarian Standard by more than 90 stakeholders. In addition, over 100 entities committed themselves to establish a common approach in order to provide information and to collect and analyse feedback from people affected by crises to influence decision-making processes.

I urge donors, international non-governmental organizations, national authorities and other stakeholders who made financing and capacity development commitments to make them time-bound and to conduct regular internal reviews on how they have succeeded in shifting leadership and implementation to national and local actors, where this is feasible,

and have improved accountability to people affected by crises. I also encourage networks such as those launched at the World Summit to promote and monitor progress in these areas.

Transcend the humanitarian-development divide

39. The World Summit culminated in a long-sought commitment to change the way that humanitarian and development actors work together.

40. In its Commitments to Action,[5] the United Nations pledged to strengthen its contribution to meeting needs, reducing vulnerabilities and improving risk management by working together with entities of the United Nations system and other entities towards collective outcomes over multi-year time frames, based on comparative advantage in each context. Some Member States, non-governmental organizations and international organizations committed to making internal reforms to improve joined-up humanitarian and development programming and financing, while others committed to flexible and multi-year financing to support collective outcomes.

41. A number of initiatives were also launched that support this new approach. The "Education Cannot Wait" fund will bring humanitarian and development communities together to increase the provision of education for children and young people in crises. The initiative on "putting health at the centre of collective humanitarian action" will support the short- and longer-term health outcomes of people in crises by improving access to essential health services, while at the same time promoting preparedness and response to outbreaks, strengthening health-care systems and preventing attacks on parties delivering healthcare.

We have committed to a new way of working, and now we must deliver on those commitments. Commitments should be quickly translated into practical, flexible and context-specific change in practice, while ensuring full respect for humanitarian principles. Policy and operational guidance should be rapidly developed, particularly in the areas of analysis, planning, coordination, leadership and financing. I urge all Member States to recognize the transformative impact that transcending the humanitarian-development divide can have on ensuring more resilient and inclusive communities and to lend their support to achieving it.

Risk and data-driven planning, programming and decision-making

42. The World Summit confirmed it was time to shift from reactively managing crises to proactively reducing risks and underscored that planning, financing and decision-making across conflict situations, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, response and recovery have to be underpinned by data and common risk analysis.

[5] The Commitments to Action, signed at the World Humanitarian Summit by the Secretary-General and eight United Nations entities (the World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Food Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Population Fund and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs), and endorsed by the World Bank and the International Organization of Migration (IOM), remains open to additional signatories.

43. To give effect to this change, a global risk analysis platform was launched at the World Summit. The platform will improve risk-based decision-making by synthesizing multi-hazard risk data and information. In this context, the United Nations also committed itself to ensure that all of its plans and programmes will be risk-informed, and private sector organizations committed to incentivize early action in order to minimize the impact of known risks and hazards. Member States, United Nations entities, the World Bank and private sector organizations pledged to increase risk financing and insurance for the most vulnerable, including through the Insurance Development Forum. Numerous commitments were also made by donors, United Nations agencies and other organizations to scale up the collection and use of sex-, age- and disability-disaggregated data as part of a risk-informed approach.

Commitments to improve shared multi-hazard risk analysis should be embedded in decision-making structures and should be evaluated to assess whether they influence subsequent actions. I encourage the close tracking of financial commitments and the documentation and sharing of the benefits of risk-insurance mechanisms to promote their use. Data, including sex-age-disability disaggregated data, must form the basis for the new way of working and must underpin decision-making.

Diverse partnerships and alliances

44. The World Summit launched new alliances, networks and initiatives to galvanize and cement new partnerships: the Global Alliance for Urban Crises will mobilize members to partner with urban institutions and communities to address risks and mitigate crisis impacts; and the Global Alliance for Humanitarian Innovation will match problems with people who might be able to solve them with new tools and insights. The capacities of regional organizations will be strengthened through the Regional Organizations Humanitarian Action Network. The Connecting Business Initiative will support, establish and strengthen private sector networks, nationally, regionally and thematically, and the Humanitarian Data Centre will increase collaboration between the private sector, academia, practitioners and policymakers to improve impact of data on humanitarian action.

I encourage strong leadership, robust action plans and clearly defined objectives for these new partnerships and alliances. Member States and other stakeholders should embrace and join these new initiatives, identifying where their interests, resources and expertise can best support them.

It is also important that the unique space offered by the World Humanitarian Summit to bring these diverse stakeholders together continue. I encourage Member States, United Nations organizations, regional groupings and other stakeholders to create opportunities for members of these initiatives to continue to come together and assess progress.

D. Disasters caused by natural hazards and climate change

(Advancing core responsibilities three, four and five)

45. The World Summit recognized the strong effect that disasters and climate-induced displacement have in terms of increasing humanitarian needs and security concerns, and affirmed that disaster response could not be isolated from broader development and climate-change adaptation efforts. The elements of the new way of working described above were also seen as critical to building community resilience and reducing risk and vulnerability related to natural hazards and climate change.

46. Over 105 entities, including 44 Member States, aligned with one or more of the core commitments on managing risks and crises differently. The core commitment to reinforce national and local leadership and capacities in managing disaster and climate-related risks received the highest number of alignments by Member States. Member States also made commitments to accelerate the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, accompanied by significant financial commitments to invest in disaster risk reduction and tackle climate change. Commitments were also made to strengthen the response to the security dimensions of climate change.

47. The Global Preparedness Partnership was launched to help an initial set of 20 of the most-at-risk countries achieve a minimum level of readiness to future shocks by 2020. Countries and regional organizations committed to strengthen regional, national and local risk analysis, crisis management capacities and resilience to climate change, and to better align regional and international offers of assistance with them. Other countries supported commitment of the World Customs Organization to facilitate the movement of relief personnel and the rapid clearance of relief goods.

48. The One Billion Coalition for Resilience will bring stakeholders together to support 1 billion people to strengthen community resilience over the next 10 years. Some Member States and the Social Protection Inter-Agency Cooperation Board have made commitments to scale up shock-resistant social protection systems.

Regional and global partnerships should be quickly operationalized with workplans and benchmarks, and matched with resources. New guidance on transcending the humanitarian-development divide should be context specific and should consider how to reduce risk and vulnerability arising from disaster and climate change. Disaster-prone countries and small island developing States will need additional support to prepare for disasters and to mitigate disaster risks.

I also urge Member States to accelerate the implementation, financing of, and coherency between the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, as well as other relevant programmes of action such as the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway.

E. Strengthening the resource base and increasing efficiency

(Advancing core responsibility five)

49. The World Summit confirmed that new resources and financial tools to meet unprecedented humanitarian needs and reduce needs, risk and vulnerability were required. This must be accompanied by more effective and more equitable use of resources to ensure that a greater portion of funding directly reaches communities.

50. The World Summit expanded the overall base of funding by attracting a more diverse group of donors and types of financing mechanisms. More than 100 entities, including 36 Member States, aligned with one or more of the core commitments related to financing. Pledges of new and additional funds for the Central Emergency Response Fund were made and will help to achieve an increase in the Fund to $1 billion by 2018. The Global Islamic Finance and Impact Investing Platform and numerous other Islamic finance initiatives will expand the financing base for crisis-affected people. The global crisis response platform, soon to be operationalized by the World Bank, will also provide resources for risk mitigation and crisis response to low- and middle-income countries, with an emphasis on those hosting refugees.

51. The cornerstone of commitments to increase efficiency was the "grand bargain", an agreement drawing together donors, United Nations entities, IOM, a national and international consortium of non-governmental organizations and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement to incrementally deliver efficiency gains of up to a billion dollars per year over five years, including reducing earmarked and increasing multi-year financing.

52. The World Summit also confirmed cash-based programming and more direct funding to local actors as critical operational measures for increasing efficiency, supporting people's agency and stimulating local economies. Commitments were made by several donors and implementing partners to increase the percentage of cash-based assistance, and targets were set to increase funding directly to local responders. Several private sector actors announced improved security and the standardization of digital payments.

> **The world has never been so wealthy, and yet the lack of available resources is constantly putting our ability to save lives and reduce suffering at risk. Flexible and unearmarked funding from diverse sources for protection and humanitarian assistance remains insufficient, creating an unacceptable gap. I urge that financial commitments be fulfilled and urge all Member States and other stakeholders to increase predictable, flexible and multi-year support to humanitarian appeals, the Central Emergency Response Fund and country-based pooled funds. Financial and political support to new financing platforms that aim to reduce risk and vulnerability in protracted and fragile settings are also critical. In addition, I also encourage initiatives on efficiency, including on strategic cash-based programming and support to local responders, and the adoption of clear benchmarks and reporting frameworks to speed implementation and promote accountability.**

III. Advancing the Agenda for Humanity

53. The World Summit was a point of departure and served as an accelerator in our collective path to prevent and manage crises differently. The key outcomes noted above illustrate some of the most significant themes that emerged, but the Agenda for Humanity should be advanced as a whole.

54. Progress in this regard will rely on the leadership and initiative of a range of stakeholders that made the World Summit a success. We will all need to make individual contributions within our respective capacity and comparative advantages. It is not for the United Nations or any other single entity to deliver alone, neither in terms of responsibility nor capacity.

55. The following section offers a simple road map for reporting on and advancing the Agenda for Humanity and related commitments — both those made at the World Summit and those still to come. It includes four elements: (a) documenting and reporting on existing and forthcoming commitments; (b) reporting annually on progress; (c) taking stock of achievements and transformation; and (d) engaging in continued dialogue and outreach.

56. The milestones and tools listed are by no means exhaustive. All stakeholders must maintain momentum on the Agenda for Humanity in ways that reflect their own expertise and areas of influence.

A. Documenting and reporting on commitments

57. Thousands of commitments to advance the Agenda for Humanity were announced at the World Summit.[6] As a guiding approach, the primary responsibility for championing, implementing and reporting on commitments is with those who have made them.

58. However, there is also a need to sustain the spirit of collaboration demonstrated at the World Summit and to ensure continued progress. This will require a shared hub for collaboration, the sharing of good practices and other dynamic forms of engagement. An online Platform for Action, Commitments and Transformation will be established to enable ongoing engagement and to offer guidance on making new commitments. The Platform will also serve as the main sources of information to analyse and report on progress, and will also:

(a) Serve as a transparency tool by publicly displaying all individual and collective commitments, alignments with core commitments and initiatives related to the Agenda for Humanity;

(b) Be based on self-reporting, and will track continued progress by enabling any stakeholders to observe commitments and progress made by others: it will be interactive, allowing users to search commitments and analyse trends;

[6] Figures referring to individual commitments include those registered by stakeholders on the online commitment platform of the World Summit or submitted to the secretariat of the Summit by e-mail up until 15 July 2016. The process of verifying individual commitments with stakeholders is ongoing. This number does not include verbal commitments expressed at the Summit.

(c) Serve as platform for continued engagement with the Agenda for Humanity: it will be a dynamic space for showcasing and catalysing new partnerships and collaborations;

(d) Include a record of the Summit itself, inter alia, statements, declarations and outcome documents from the various forums held at the Summit.

59. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs will be responsible for the development of the Platform in order to ensure that it can deliver these core functions, in collaboration with relevant partners. Support from Member States and other stakeholders will be needed in the form of resources, expertise and active participation.

B. Reporting on progress: annual synthesis report

60. In order to honour the call for significant change that emerged from the World Summit, we must periodically assess progress and identify areas where it may be lagging. As one contribution to this assessment, an annual synthesis report will be prepared.

61. The synthesis report will be based on self-reporting provided on the Platform as well as targeted follow-up. I have requested the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to coordinate the preparation of the report. The report will draw from the Platform and other relevant sources of information, and will also reflect emerging research. The report will complement reports of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

62. The synthesis report may be supported by an annual survey or similar outreach to provide a range of regional and stakeholder perspectives. Reporting should draw upon the growing use of common feedback mechanisms that provide direct input from affected communities.

63. Reporting should be informed by submission of thematic or other analysis on specific areas of focus from the World Summit, such as: cash-based programming; data-sharing and analysis; or some of the many other cross-cutting issues. This kind of analysis from bodies of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, civil society, the scientific and academic community and others can enrich individual reporting.

64. Some aspects of the Agenda for Humanity are reliant solely or primarily on a single stakeholder group, including Member States, donors or first responders. The use and sharing of peer reviews is an important tool for sharing good practices and overcoming shared challenges.

C. Assessing achievements and transformation: taking stock of progress

65. Any point of departure and acceleration should naturally have a point of arrival — a point for determining whether the desired change and transformation has taken hold. The overall measure of progress will be whether fewer people are caught in conflict, crises and situations of risk and vulnerability, and whether the most vulnerable have benefited from progress made in delivering the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

66. A high-level stocktaking meeting within the next three to five years will be necessary to assess overall progress and to identify shortcomings that require our further attention. Such an exercise could take into account progress reported through the online Platform for Action, Commitments and Transformation, annual reports and developments in intergovernmental, inter-agency and other forums, and could draw on initiatives at the regional, national and local levels.

D. Furthering dialogue and engagement

67. The engagement and dialogue throughout the World Summit process provided new opportunities to reflect on shared challenges and to collectively advance initiatives that might otherwise have remained isolated. For some Member States and other stakeholders, time did not allow for the adoption of commitments that reflected their level of interest in advance of the Summit. Follow-up to the Summit must therefore offer opportunities for dialogue in support of additional commitments and broadened support for those announced interest at the Summit. Below are examples of some of the relevant international, regional, national, and cross-cutting forums for doing so.

1. International forums

Intergovernmental

68. I encourage Member States to engage in continued dialogue on key issues emanating from the World Summit, using all relevant channels available through intergovernmental processes, including through relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council forums and resolutions, such as the annual strengthening the coordination of United Nations emergency humanitarian assistance resolutions. Through dialogue during the Council's humanitarian affairs segment, Member States have an opportunity to discuss progress and challenges in advancing their commitments to relevant aspects of the Agenda for Humanity. Moreover, enhanced dialogue between the Council and the Peacebuilding Commission to promote coherence and complementarity among humanitarian, development and peace and security actors, as requested by the Assembly in its resolution 70/262 and by the Security Council in its resolution 2282 (2015), can also play an important role.

69. The General Assembly offers an opportunity for continued dialogue that more deliberately links the humanitarian agenda to the broader global agendas, including during the annual general debate. I also encourage dialogue associated with the high-level political forum on sustainable development to consider the contributions of Member States and stakeholders to reducing overall humanitarian needs.

70. Many of the issues in the Agenda for Humanity, particularly those regarding the protection of civilians and international humanitarian law, will be of concern to the Security Council. In particular, the Agenda for Humanity calls for increased efforts to report on allegations of violations of international humanitarian and human rights law and increased situational awareness on possible emerging crises and conflicts. Through my office, as well as relevant special representatives, the Emergency Relief Coordinator and other principal United Nations actors, I will endeavour to keep the Council apprised of progress and challenges related to these issues. In addition, I welcome the emphasis that Member States have placed on the

intention of the Security Council to request specific, strategic and targeted advice from the Peacebuilding Commission and the desire for the Commission to advise and convene the entities of the system to sustain peace.

71. The Human Rights Council also offers an important role in advancing the Agenda for Humanity, in particular by addressing human rights violations and abuses that serve as early warnings for large-scale future crises and conflicts. International human rights mechanisms, including the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the universal periodic review process, provide significant tools to further the human rights aspects of the Agenda for Humanity. I continue to attach importance to the annual meetings of States parties to international humanitarian and human rights legal instruments that further the respect of international law and advance the Agenda for Humanity.

72. Through continued partnership between the United Nations and the World Bank, we will remain engaged in further dialogue on the role of new and existing financial instruments relevant to the Agenda for Humanity. I also welcome continued engagement with other international financial institutions and regional banks, which showed tremendous leadership at the World Summit. The annual meeting of the World Bank and the meetings of its Development Committee offer important opportunities to assess progress in these areas.

International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

73. Components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement provided substantive guidance and engagement for the organization and conduct of the World Summit at all levels. On issues such as upholding international humanitarian law, locally-led prevention and response, resilience-building, the safety of health-care workers and many other themes, the role of the International Movement spans policy development and the delivery of humanitarian action. In particular, the quadrennial International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent has been a critical forum for the development of and respect for international humanitarian law and other issues of central concern to the humanitarian community for many years. As such, the it offers an opportunity to carry forward discussions linked to or drawing from the Agenda for Humanity that are relevant to the core mission of the International Movement.

International multi-stakeholder forums

74. Other international forums, such as the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding also made significant contributions to the World Summit, including the adoption of the Stockholm Declaration on Addressing Fragility and Building Peace in a Changing World. Meetings of the International Dialogue, publications and peer reviews of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development also offer important tools to further those commitments.

75. There are many non-governmental, government-led and United Nations forums that draw together multiple stakeholders to discuss policy and practice, and these will be critical to advancing the Agenda for Humanity. One example, from within the United Nations system, is the Global Humanitarian Policy Forum, convened by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, which can be used as a forum to highlight and measure progress on key priorities and initiatives

and link to other global change agendas. This and other forums that reach across stakeholder groups must continue to benefit from broad participation and support.

Inter-agency forums

76. Many commitments announced at the World Summit emerged from the United Nations and its governing bodies. In the remainder of my tenure as Secretary-General, I will continue to lead the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination in discussing and advancing "whole-of-United Nations" positions and issues of relevance for the Organization and its partners that advance the Agenda for Humanity. In some areas, broad policy agreement has already been achieved and must now be turned into operational guidance through relevant bodies, such as the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, the United Nations Development Group and their respective working groups.

2. Regional forums and groupings

Regional organizations and groupings

77. Member State groupings at the regional level played an important role in catalysing action and developing common positions that advance different aspects of the Agenda for Humanity. For example, the Common African Position on Humanitarian Effectiveness launched by the African Union earlier in 2016, and the new partnership forged between the Organization for Islamic Cooperation and the Islamic Development Bank, as well as broad-based policy initiatives spearheaded by the European Union, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, can produce transformative results. I encourage the continued efforts of these and other regional groupings, as well as the new Regional Organizations Humanitarian Action Network, to support Member States in taking these commitments forward.

Regional steering groups

78. As part of the consultation process for the holding of the World Humanitarian Summit, regional steering groups worked to ensure that the Summit would reflect the diverse contexts that shape humanitarian needs. I strongly encourage the sustained use of these informal groups to maintain diverse forms of engagement and to increase awareness of the Agenda for Humanity.

3. National and local forums

79. The impact of the Agenda for Humanity must ultimately be felt at the national and local levels, where Member States have the primary responsibility to prevent and respond to crises. I strongly encourage the continued use of the appropriate national processes that were important leading up to the World Summit, such as parliamentary dialogues, national policy reviews and awareness-raising efforts. Local forums for engagement also continue to be important in recognizing local leadership and capacity and clarifying needs and priorities through community engagement.

80. Through the United Nations system at the national level, I encourage resident and humanitarian coordinators, humanitarian country teams and United Nations country teams to support Member States as they implement their commitments. This

may include: the provision of technical guidance; the sharing of good practices; or the convening of dialogues across stakeholder groups to broaden partnerships.

4. Cross-cutting networks and forums

81. Many stakeholder groups and forums for engagement have an impact across national, regional and international levels: a number of such groups and forums are listed below as possible channels for advancing the Agenda for Humanity.

Civil society engagement and dialogue

82. Among the most forward-looking commitments at the World Summit were those made by non-governmental organizations, including the establishment of new standards, charters and platforms. In addition to the frontline delivery of humanitarian assistance, civil society actors have been particularly vocal on issues of accountability, protecting rights and ensuring that results for crisis-affected people are at the centre of all of our efforts. Civil society, such as international and local non-governmental organizations, as well as faith-based groups, diaspora and migrant communities and others, must continue to fulfil their critical role in providing leadership, service delivery, advocacy and outreach, including through engagement with affected communities.

Private sector networks

83. Private sector engagement was integrated throughout the World Summit, with participants recognizing the strategic role of the private sector beyond financing, including by drawing upon core competencies; building community resilience; and helping to restore economies and livelihoods. I applaud the important initiatives and commitments launched by the private sector at the Summit and I encourage Member States and others to continue to collaborate with private sector partners and to take full advantage of their expertise and capacities, including through the Connecting Business Initiative. I urge businesses to report on their progress using the Platform for Action, Commitments and Transformation and their own channels for information-sharing.

Research and evidence development

84. Numerous academic, research organizations and think tanks contributed to the research and evidence base that underpinned the Agenda for Humanity. I encourage academic and research institutions to continue to work to strengthen the evidence base for assessing progress on the Agenda for Humanity to illustrate where commitments and initiatives are having an impact, where gaps in data exist and how to adapt progress measurements to different contexts. Resulting research and analysis in this area could be presented on the Platform for Action, Commitments and Transformation and as a contribution to the annual synthesis report.

Global advocacy and outreach

85. In order to maintain the inclusive and broad reaching nature of the process adopted at the World Summit, I call on all stakeholders to share highlights and personal stories about progress, good practices and key challenges in advancing the Agenda for Humanity. Advocacy and outreach campaigns, including through traditional and new media, will be important for continued engagement. The

Summit also recognized that global advocates at all levels, from Heads of State to community leaders, play a critical role in framing the urgency of our shared challenges in their own circles of influence. I encourage efforts by those advocates to translate their critical roles so that they may act as political champions for the Agenda for Humanity.

IV. Conclusions and recommendations

86. The success of the World Humanitarian Summit and its ability to accelerate transformational change will only show over the coming months and years as we demonstrate our collective commitment to take the outcomes of the Summit forward and to steadfastly advance the Agenda for Humanity. We will need to adapt as challenges and opportunities arise, work in the new ways we identified, and do it together with the range of stakeholders and partners we embraced at the Summit.

87. On the basis of the foregoing, and in addition to the proposals I have made throughout the report, I recommend the following:

(a) Member States, United Nations, humanitarian organizations and all other relevant stakeholders should take forward, with urgency, the commitments and initiatives they made at the World Humanitarian Summit, champion and build support for them and self-report annually on concrete progress on implementation of commitments to the online Platform for Action, Commitments and Transformation;

(b) Member States, the United Nations, humanitarian organizations and all other relevant stakeholders are encouraged to continue to make additional commitments and take initiatives to advance the Agenda for Humanity and the five core responsibilities set out in the report, "One humanity: shared responsibility", including through alignment with the core commitments, and to further support the initiatives launched at the Summit through applicable financial, political and operational support;

(c) Member States, the United Nations, humanitarian organizations and all other relevant stakeholders should champion their commitments and reach out to relevant stakeholders, as part of their implementation efforts, in order to leverage the capacities, resources and expertise available among the diverse set of actors who can contribute to the reduction of human need and suffering;

(d) Member States are encouraged to take forward the Agenda for Humanity and its five core responsibilities and other key outcomes of the Summit through deliberations in appropriate intergovernmental forums aimed at meeting and reducing humanitarian needs, risk and vulnerability;

(e) Member States, the United Nations, humanitarian organizations and all other relevant stakeholders should continue to strengthen the resource base and achieve efficiency gains to urgently address the shortfall in funding for addressing and reducing humanitarian need, risk and vulnerability, including through: ensuring predictable, flexible and multi-year financing; broadening the donor base; investing in prevention and preparedness; aligning humanitarian, climate and development finance; and making use of the wide range of financial tools available;

(f) Member States, the United Nations, humanitarian organizations and all other relevant stakeholders are encouraged to provide technical and financial support to local actors addressing humanitarian need, risk and vulnerability and to support people affected by crises, national and local actors, particularly those in developing countries, to implement their commitments and to take forward the Agenda for Humanity.